

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 10077 261641Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR VE US

SUBJ: VENEZUELAN CONGRESS AND AD LEADERS REJECT US "THREATS"

1. THE DELEGATED COMMITTEE OF THE VENEZUELAN CONGRESS (WHICH ACTS WHEN CONGRESS IS IN RECESS) UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED A RESOLUTION SEPTEMBER 24 "CATEGORICALLY REJECTING THE RECENT DELECLARATIONS BY HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE US GOVERNMENT WHICH ONCE MORE EXPRESSED THE POLICY OF THREAT AND PRESSURE AGAINST OPEC." RESOLUTION DECLARES OPEC HAS THE RIGHT TO INCREASE PETROLEUM PRICES IN ORDER TO COMPENSATE FOR INFLATION AND THE DECLINE OF THE DOLLAR; THAT HIGHER PETROLEUM PRICES ARE A MEANS TO DEFEND THE OPEC COUNTRIES' ECONOMY; AND THAT VENEZUELA SHOULD, WITH THE OTHER OPEC AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRRIES, CONTINUE TO DEFEND THE VALUE OF THEIR PRINCIPAL RESOURCES NOT ONLY BY ESTABLISHING "JUST PRICES" FOR HYDROCARBONS AND OTHER RAW MATERIALS, BUT ALSO BY "TAKING A FIRM ATTITUDE" IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE INDUSTILIZED COUNTRIES.

2. ALSO ON SEPTEMBER 24 AD SECRETARY GENERAL LUIS PINERUA TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE BELIEVED PRESIDENT FORD'S AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S RECENT STATEMENTS, WHICH HE TERMED "THREATS," AND WHICH HE "CATEGORICALLY REJECTED", TO HAVE BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 CARACA 10077 261641Z

"DOMINATED TOO MUCH BY ELECTORAL INTEREST." PINERUA SAID HE

DID NOT "BELIEVE THEM CAPABLE OF THE MADNESS OF SUSTAINING THESE THREATS AS AN OFFICIAL ATTITUDE AGAINST THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES, APPARENTLY THE OBJECT OF THE THREATS."

3. PINERUA'S DECLARATION FOLLOWED A STATEMENT THE DAY BEFORE BY AD POLITICAL SECRETARY CARLOS CANACHE DESCRIBING PRESIDENT FORD'S SEPTEMBER 22 REMARKS ABOUT COVERT POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AS "REALLY INCREDIBLE" AND TANTA-MOUNT TO "PROCLAIMING A LAW OF THE JUNGLE." CANACHE ALSO SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS WERE "CLEARLY DIRECTED AT THE OPEC MEETING NOW TAKING PLACE IN VIENNA.

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